

Blinded By Belief

The 600 year old Conspiracy of Silence.

**The TRUE story of
a medieval
crusader knight
and how his burial
shroud has over
time miraculously
became the burial
shroud of Jesus.**

**This one man's
tragic death
changed the entire
course of world
history forever.
It IS his image,
there is no doubt.**



**This book will
disclose who he
was, how all the
evidence shows it
is him, and how
the image was
naturally
produced. It will
also explain why
this shroud is
where it is at and
his ancestral
relationship to all
those involved in
its story.**

**The Absolute and Undeniable Truth about
The Shroud of Turin and The Sword of Saint Maurice.**

by T.M. Ritchie

It is not a miracle. It is not a fraud.

The Shroud of Turin is either the most awesome and instructive relic of Jesus Christ in existence . . . or it is one of the most ingenious, most unbelievably clever, products of the human mind and hand on record; there is no middle ground.

—John Walsh, *The Shroud* (1963)¹

I am sorry to tell you Mr. Walsh.

There is a middle ground.

It is called the truth.

All the research I have done to reach my conclusion and discover the true identity of this man was from the evidence gathered by the scientific team called STURP.

The Shroud of Turin Research Project, STURP, has been the single, most extensive scientific examination of the Shroud to date. In 1978, a multi-disciplined group of scientists conducted a round-the-clock five-day examination of the Shroud.

So what is it? The **Shroud of Turin** or **Turin Shroud** is a length of linen cloth bearing the image of a man who appears to have suffered physical trauma in a manner consistent with crucifixion. There is no consensus yet on how the image was created, and it is believed by some to be the burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth, despite radiocarbon dating placing its origins in the Medieval period.

The image is much clearer in black-and-white negative than in its natural sepia color. The negative image was first observed in 1898, on the reverse photographic plate of amateur photographer Secondo Pia, who was allowed to photograph it while it was being exhibited in the Turin Chapel. The shroud is kept in the royal chapel of the Cathedral of Saint John in Turin, northern Italy.

The origins of the shroud and its image are the subject of intense debate among theologians, historians and researchers. Scientific and popular publications have presented diverse arguments for both authenticity and possible methods of forgery.

A variety of scientific theories regarding the shroud have since been proposed, based on disciplines ranging from chemistry to biology and medical forensics to optical image analysis. The Shroud of Turin is respected by Christians of several traditions, including Baptists, Catholics, Lutherans, Methodists, Orthodox, Pentecostals, and Presbyterians.

But I have always seen the image of the man as to what he actually was. A well developed healthy mature man in his forty's of European heritage. Not a 30 year old ethnic middle eastern Jewish man.

I also was curious as to why those of the House of Savoy the oldest Royal House in Europe was so intent on having this burial cloth in their possession.

I also wondered why a young woman came to possess it? It was known that she was a descendant of a crusader knight who was known to have first possessed it during the crusade period. What was all their connections and was there a family connection to the man whose image was imprinted on the cloth.

Was it at all possible with today's linked technology with all the data on the internet freely available for me to find one man who lived during a specific period, in a certain place, at a certain time and died from the same wounds as displayed on the cloth and was related to the House of Savoy?

Well, after 5 years of research the simple answer is yes there is a man and the evidence is indisputable that it is his burial shroud! And even more unbelievable is that every single person involved with this cloth is related to his siblings and both parents by blood.

Further more I even know how the image was made and what all the various wounds, marks, scratches and mysterious image projections mean and how they all came to be. It was a natural process of body preservation used during the time period of his life. It was a miracle that created the image. A miracle of nature.

I also have a theory as to how this cloth came to be where it was first recovered. And there is the manner of his sword. Yes, the sword he was buried with. Every Crusader knight is buried with his sword.

The sword that too is kept in Turin, Italy at the House of Savoy's royal armory. The sword dated to his time and was used extensively in battle. With nicks and even dried blood seen on it. The sword they call "The Sword of Saint Maurice".

So I started searching on the internet for any information on the crusades. If he was a European man who died in the Levant then he could have only been there during this period of European intervention in the middle east. The shroud first appeared in Constantinople during the fourth Crusade in 1204.

Whomever he was had to be there prior to that date. So I had an approximate 100 year period to go through to find him because the first crusade was in 1099. How hard could that be?

All I actually had to do is find a Christian knight who died with two side stab wounds, a broken cheek and nose. A forehead wound and two shoulder wounds who had died in the Spring time somewhere in the Levant. All the evidence shown on the Shroud of Turin.

And I did. Why no one else attempted it or even looked at the evidence in the manner I did and tried to solve this centuries old mystery is beyond my comprehension. He was a member of the House of Savoy.

This man was not just any other crusader knight. He was the ultimate Christian warrior knight. He held the rank of Caesar at one time in the Byzantine Empire. This is all documented historical fact.

He lived and died during the period of the European crusader states in the Levant. A 300 year period of world history where all the European powers tried to establish permanent colonies in an area of the middle east with Caucasian Christians.

During this 300 plus period those who lived there gained noble titles and intermarried not only within their community but also into other royalty. All their bloodlines intermingled. It created some interesting relationships indeed.

This man was married and his wife the Queen was pregnant with child at the time of his death. She had his daughter. She went on and married two more times and had 5 daughters by those two men too.

His daughter married and had a daughter *but died during child birth*. Her husband lived for a very long time and had 3 more wives who bore him many children.

This mans' granddaughter married a grandson of his nephew and bore him a son. *She too like her mother died at child birth.*

His wife was also a descendant of the woman who was the female founder of the House of Savoy thousand year dynasty. Yes, the man and his wife were blood relatives. They were 4th cousins. By her mothers, mothers, mother.

After his granddaughter died during child birth her husband too married 3 times and had many children from those wives. Two of those wives were of Savoy blood lines.

Eventually their descendants and the descendants of the Crusader states royalty including his son-in laws other children married into his siblings blood line.

His great-grandson attempted to emulate his noble ancestors. Unfortunately, the Pope thought different and during a dispute with the Papal states had him beheaded at age 16. This ended his blood line.

So why was he so different than all the other leaders? He would have, if crowned King, been the first world leader of a recognized government elected by his peers. That is who he was.

A nation created of immigrants from all walks of life, from all countries of Europe and the Levant living in a somewhat secular country.

All people of the region, who in the last 4 years of his life, came to where he controlled one small area, simply because of his leadership, ability to competently govern, and had real human compassion for all with no regard to race, ethnic origin or religion.

The world we live in today, would be different if he had lived, and his vision for a secular society in the middle east had been allowed to flourish.

But, he died before it was realized, and the land was fought over for many more years until finally Christians abandoned it and retreated back to Europe.

Centuries went by and his name is forgotten but only by a few of his family, who knew about his life and story, knowledge of his sword and burial cloth and how it was stolen from his funerary.

He was feared by his foes. He had the a unique distinction and appearance that brought fear to his opponents. He was the only knight warrior who not only wore complete chain mail but his white horse did too!

History has recorded that opposing soldiers threw down their weapons and ran from the field of battle in fear just from his appearance on his white horse.

He was handsome in appearance and highly educated in the finest schools in Europe. He spoke at least seven languages fluently. He and his family was literally related to every royal family in Europe.

Because of this he could travel with ease between areas that were fighting with others. In his youth he participated in numerous jousting events and was known for his competent and excellent skills in all manners of the combat arms.

He, at one time, while battling against the Saracen army in the Levant, led a combined army of three different knight orders and a large force of vanguard mercenaries. Men who did not like each other and normally would not go in to battle together.

It was a sight only recorded because they all, to a man, respected his leadership ability. One man, not yet a king, led four combined armies of European Christians from though out all Europe in to battle. And defeated a much larger force.

He also was the first European knight to wear body armor! He had a chest plate made of layers of thick felt and asphalt that arrows bounced off of and did not penetrate. That would discourage and demoralize any foe to be sure.

But now in modern times we as a society know little about this remarkable man and his shortened life. He was a just man who lived in a turbulent time in a troubled land. It is his burial cloth. There is no doubt.

If there has been one person who has embodied the essence of an ultimate Christian soldier in every way it was this man. A knight who took up the cross for his belief. A man who history has sadly forgotten.

Look at this front view of the image on the shroud.



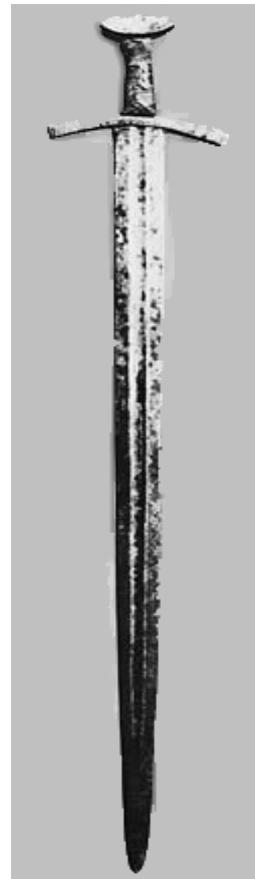
Notice now how correct the image appears once the sword he was buried with is inserted properly in its place.

The left hand grasping the hilt the right hand is under the hilt and the left hand and the fingers against the guard. The image is one dimensional. In reality this man was in a reclining position not laying flat on his back.

The natural process that created the image did not create enough heat to imprint this metal object. But the "shadow" of it is there on the shroud.

This is his sword. Notice the guard on the right is slightly bent down.

This bent guard was from the immense internal pressure the body went through in the decomposition process while totally encapsulated in a natural heat absorbing material.



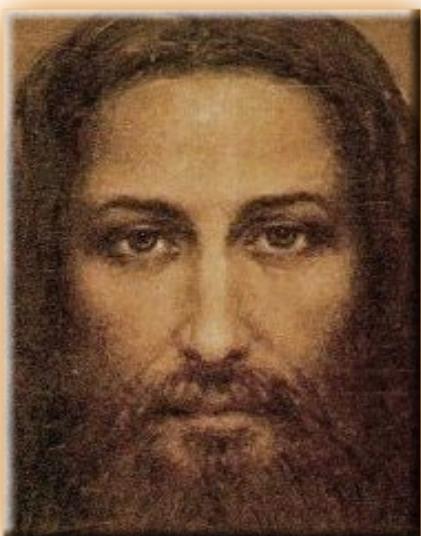
A process that caused his fingers to compress and deform against and bend the guard. As seen in the image to the left. The odd image of his open hand and unnatural appearing fingers is the result and visible proof.

This sword has been dated by experts to his life time. It is in the Savoy royal armory in Turin, Italy. There are actually TWO swords called, "The Sword of Saint Maurice"! One is located in Vienna, Austria in a museum.

It is from the same period but experts say it was only used as a ceremonial piece for coronations. And maybe a copy of this one.

BOTH swords were in Vienna until the Duke of Savoy had this particular sword moved to its present location. This sword was used in battle many times while he was alive. He was a warrior crusader knight known to lead from the front. The first to enter the battle field.

This is an artistic rendition of the face on the image.



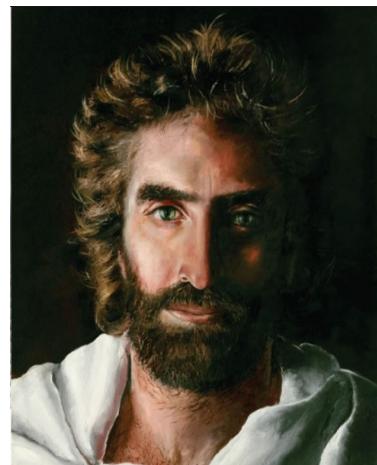
This is a head shot of a complete 3 D image made of the imprinted data on the cloth..



This is what he would have looked like the morning of the day he died. A forty year old or so European man. He would be considered very handsome even today if he was alive.

His long hair was neatly groomed and braided and knotted hanging down his back. Someone who had servants to do just that. Only men of royal blood could wear long hair then. Or had servants!!!

This is a rendition of his face done by a young artist.



This uncanny resemblance below is a fictional portrait of him commissioned by the House of Savoy hundreds of years after his death. It hangs today in a museum dedicated to his family near Turin ,Italy. It has been cropped.



This picture is of Otto the first the founding member of the Royal house of Savoy. The resemblance can be seen.



But there is more recent evidence that singularly points to this man. Things that the members of the royal House of Savoy did to house and memorialize his burial cloth.

They built a chapel to house and display it. A chapel separate within the grounds of the Turin Cathedral in Turin, Italy. A cathedral built on land donated to the church by his ancestor!

And the chapel they built to display it they named the Chapel of Saint John. Which is only correct and proper knowing that the chapel his body was laid to rest in the Levant after his untimely and tragic death was also named the Chapel of Saint John! They knew whose image it was of.

The members of the House of Savoy also for some strange reason would publicly do something on a certain date which to the unaware seemed random but if one were to know who this man was and his life makes absolute sense.

It was the date of his coronation if it had actually taken place. Another woman did something to this cloth that was a very personal and emotional act. Something known about in history to honor with respect her ancestor. She removed the black mourning backing and sewed on a royal crimson cloth backing .A color only worn by those of the highest royal rank.

So why is this cloth so important to the church? Because it is estimated over 40 millions people have converted to Catholicism just off the simple belief this is the actual burial shroud of the Jewish carpenter called Jesus. But it may also be because his fathers uncle was a Pope.

Or that at least two of his siblings descendants were Popes. Or that his Savoy relatives were Popes, and Cardinals and Bishops and even the Archbishop of Canterbury!

The Catholic church has never made an affirmative statement of what their belief of this cloth actually is. Because they without a doubt most certainly know who it is not the shroud of.....

I wish not to divulge now what caused this image to be created, but I do know how it was done and what naturally took place.

It was a very simple natural process that had been used before to preserve a body but was exacerbated and enhanced by the simple fact he was entombed while still alive. Why was his burial cloth so important to the family?

Well, it is because of this one simple known fact. He would have been the first Savoyard from Savoy to rule a kingdom. His mother and father were both the founding fathers progeny.

There was of course other rulers throughout Europe who were of Savoy blood. But none of them had both parents genetically entwined with the royal house.

His father's mother and his mother's mother had both been married twice. This was not uncommon at this time in history. Because of this fact he and his siblings had 41 aunts and uncles.

His family, his three siblings, lived relative long lives and successfully procreated many times. Their descendants married into their own Savoy blood line through relatives many, many times.

It is impossible to find one person of royal blood today who is not his family's progeny. It has been that way for well over 700 years. That is why his mother is called, *"The Mother of all Royalty"* by genealogists.

Many of the Prime Ministers of England including Churchill and Cameron are descendants. Princess Di, Lady Camillia. Lady Sara Ferguson all are his sibling's progeny. Even Prince Philip the Queens consort is of his family's blood line.

Baron von Bismark of Germany and even the "Red Baron" Baron von Richthofen of World War 1 fame are descendants.

All the Kings of France were of his bloodline. And actually every single royal European family after that. But so was even these people. Every President of the U.S. has been of his families bloodline! And in many instances their challenger was too.

But even more famous people I have found are related to his family by blood. Hillary Rodham Clinton is blood. So is singers Celine Dionne and Beyonce Knowles.

Actors Jake and Maggie Gyllenhaal are of his families blood line. And also Valerie Bertinelli. Even Stewart Copeland the drummer for the music group "The Police" and David Crosby of Crosby, Stills and Nash.

Oddly, almost every person I named are related though the women ancestors. Basically their mothers, mothers, mothers, mothers etc. all the way back to his mother and beyond to one woman.

Her name was Adelaide of Turin. The woman all those millions of people through out history are descended from. She was the matriarch of the House. Of Savoy.

This man was not just any other crusader knight. He was the ultimate Christian warrior knight. He held the rank of Caesar at one time in the Byzantine Empire. This is all documented historical fact.

This is a full body three dimensional sculpture representation of the man in reclining repose. You can readily tell he is a very well developed European male at least forty years old at time of death. You can also better understand where his sword was placed between his legs prior to his entombment.

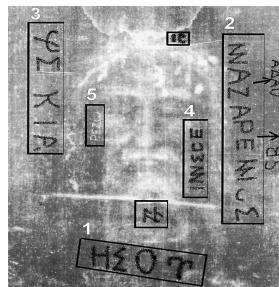
The image on the shroud shows a man who was bow-legged! Typical for a knight who spent his entire life on horseback serving his lord.

The evidence on the shroud shows leaf imprints on the shroud and pollen has been found embedded in the cloth fibers.



The leaves are from plants and trees that grow only in the Middle East.

This indicates the man died in spring time somewhere in the Levant. Exactly at the time he died and where he died. Then this piece of evidence imprinted in to the cloth.



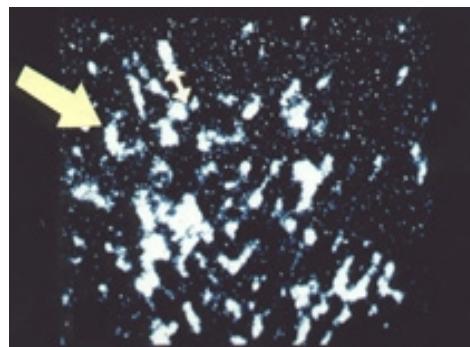
Seen imprinted into the cloth in his facial area was these items made from thin copper metal sheets embossed with these words in Greek. The figure numbered 2 on the right is Greek for Nazarene.

A archaic term for a Christian. NOT someone from Nazareth but a Christian.

Somebody was leaving identifying information on the body. Another says he died in the early evening. Which was when he died according to historical records.

The other translates to "I commit", but as to who is unknown. It was either the religious leader who was with him at death or the Constable the 2nd highest official of the kingdom and law enforcement and actually his close friend.

More evidence as to who he was and where and when he died can be seen here. On his eyes appears to be faint impressions made by coins placed over them. A very common practice then. On one eye the coin impression shows the letter symbol "C" or "G" in a particular location as seen by the arrow.



My research found this coin was minted in the kingdom at the approximate time he lived in the Levant and widely used. No other coins were minted until after his death. Look at the location of the arrow and the letter symbol it points to.



It is again evident that somebody was leaving information to tell people in the future when and if they exhumed the body who he was and where and when he died.

Interestingly enough his title of respect position and authority was "Lord"...

But now this is where my research and comprehending the written evidence from the STURP team led to this sad conclusion. The team observed evidence of moisture from sweat on his lower extremity's. They also found evidence of moisture around the nasal passages and mouth.

Only live breathing people sweat and leave moisture from their breath. He was entombed or actually encapsulated while still alive! The fall from the horse and the impact with the travertine street had rendered him unconscious and put him in a coma. They just did not know this.

Medical knowledge at the time of his life was still very rudimentary. Signs of life to them was consciousness. Being able to focus and acknowledge others. To make matters worse he had a very bad relationship with the medical practitioners in his kingdom.

He had actually had one or more killed because their attempts of helping him cope with his life long health condition were futile. That same condition caused his coma and was the reason for the numerous scratches seen on his body in the image.

It was also was the reason the two shoulder wounds he had received took so long to heal. This man was afflicted with a genetic condition called hemophilia. Hemophilia disrupts the clotting factor in blood and slows the development of the wound. The condition is known as "weak wound".



These scratches seen in the above illustration are from a life time of wearing this for protection. *Notice no scratch marks where his braided hair held the mail off his shoulder and to protect his wounds.*

This is the type of chain mail outfit he always wore **over** his felt breast plate. The reason there are no visible scratches on his chest. The hood created the forehead abrasions seen.



He would have worn the typical style of German mail (seen close up in the image below) they were riveted not like Frank mail which was welded. Those rivets was the cause of his scratch marks seen on his back, buttocks and legs.



History has recorded when he received the first shoulder wound it took over a month to heal properly. The 2nd incident he had to be carried from the battle field he was to weak to walk.

Another common symptom of hemophilia is it causes fluid build up in the joints and they appear swollen. If you look at the image all his joints shows this appearance. Even the slightest of head blows can render a hemophiliac unconscious and in a coma.

He was known to be surely and moody all the time. It is no wonder knowing that he suffered with this debilitating condition all his life.

There is evidence on the shroud of travertine dust on the mans heels. Recently "experts" believe he had both shoulders dislocated at time of death.

When he fell face first from his horse two of his aides turned him over and carried/drug him by his arms to the nearby infirmary for medical assistance. Apparently his boots were pulled off in the process..

Hemophiliacs are predisposed to dislocating their joints easily. It is also known as the "Royal Disease." History has documented that Queen Victoria passed it to her female children who passed it to the males in their family.

Geneticists tracked the gene back through Queen Victoria's ancestors. The woman they finally traced it to was his grandmother! His Mom's mother.

Just to again summarize all the obvious evidence.

The image clearly shows a man who is white European in his middle 40's and well built about 6 foot tall.

He was all of that.

The image shows a man who had suffered a stab wound in one side above the waist that bled profusely and a deep puncture wound in the other below the rib cage.

He died from those wounds.

The image shows a man who had two shoulder wounds on the upper back side.

He had previously received two shoulder wounds.

The image indicates flower and leaf imprints of plants and pollen from the Levant indicating a spring time death period.

He was murdered at that time in that location.

There is coinage imprinted on the cloth with a letter clearly visible.

Coinage from his period and place shows such a letter.

The image shows a man who was bowlegged.

He was a knight who spent his entire life astride a horse.

The abrasion seen on his hands and feet are rub wounds from his shoes and gloves.

The image shows a man with long well kept braided hair.

His status in life would have afforded him the right to wear his hair long and have servants to care for his grooming.

The image appears to be grasping an object.

He was a knight and was buried with his sword.

Once you know it will make logical sense. Just the fact of knowing who he was, where he was the day he died and the only logical explanation to the process that produced this very detailed image of his front and rear body.

It is all a natural biological, scientific explanation. Sometimes, with mans assistance, nature creates miracles. If you know the definition of what a miracle is.

Sadly the image was produced because of the fact he was not yet deceased when he was entombed for all eternity. Maybe the reason that his image has survived for centuries is a sign to us in modern times not to forget our past.

Many of those more powerful who lived when he did have little physical evidence of their existence. In this cloth we actually know what he looked like the day he died. It is easy to understand why people have always compared his image and wounds to those Jesus suffered on his day of Crucifixion.

What you will find is this man when you know who he was also suffered from those wounds. Not just one day but his entire adult life time. His condition was so to speak,"the cross he had to bear."

He had three brothers who all died in the middle east during the period of the crusades. His father also passed away (from old age of 79) while there on crusade.

His demise was the result of a conspiracy. Someone who was his enemy sent men seeking vengeance.

Once you understand his history and his involvement and the aftermath of his death this will all make sense. But I have found a possible logical reason why his burial shroud and sword was pilfered from his tomb and came to the place it was recovered.

Historians are uncertain and actually confused by statements made by historical figures and events that came about that changed history that will all make logical sense when you understand who this one man was.

One major event may have been just an act of vengeance by all his many cousins once they found out this cloth and his sword had been graveled robbed to pay a debt to another cousin a European king!

This is an amazing story the world needs to know about. The truth about the man whose image is on the shroud in Turin.

What I have found in the five years of following this story and the path of the cloth and all European history is this.

Adelaide of Turin (Susa) was the matriarch of the House of Savoy. She is the woman who all those in power for the last 1000 years are descended from.

For the last 1000 years the royal family's of Europe and the middle east have used this planet as their play ground.

Those of us alive today and our ancestors have been and are literally human pawns to be used and moved on one huge chess board.

Even the game itself uses king and queens, knights ,rooks and pawns as pieces to be moved.

When you consider that even today all major leaders of the world are descendants of these privileged people.

They are all descendants of the Egyptian Pharaohs of antiquity. And biblical people from the old testament too!

From one genealogy web site I got this result for a male ancestor.

Benjamin MP (-1804 - -1316) "Benjamin", "Ben-Oni", "בְּנַי־וֹנִי"	Adelaida's 106th great grandfather	Zechariah Steiner	Son of Jacob and Rachel / בָּנֵם רָחֵל Husband of W2 , and Aribath . Father of Uzza ; Ahhud ; Ard of the Old Testament; Ashbel of the Old Testament; Beker of the Old Testament; Bela of the Old Testament; Ehi of the Old Testament; Gera of the Old Testament; Huppim of the Old Testament; Muppim of the Old Testament; Naaman of the Old Testament; Rosh of the Old Testament; Ehi; Ahiram ., 3; Ara; Jobab; Jobab; Zibia Zibia; Meshesha; Malcham Malcham; Jeuz Jeuz; Shachia Shachia; Mirma Mirma; abitub Abitub; ** Maacha ; Quis; Eude; Shaharam; Tribe Members ; Shufam; Ard ., 10; Huphim Hupham ., 9; Abumatta; Gera ., 4; Naaman; Rosh; Muppim Shephupham Nohah ., 8; Belah ., 1; Becher . and Ashbel Jediael . < less Brother of Joseph Half brother of Balan; Akhyar; Asykat; Ahya; Khairun; Numan; Wardun; Haltsan; Altam; Reuben ; Simeon ; Zebulun ; Issachar ; Dinah ; Judah ; Levi ; Yathirah ; Dan ; Naphtali ; Gad . and Asher
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Benjamin was the last-born of Jacob's twelve sons, and the second and last son of Rachel in Jewish, Christian and Islamic tradition. He was the progenitor of the Israelite Tribe of Benjamin. In the Biblical account, unlike Rachel's first son, Joseph, Benjamin was born in Canaan.

According to Genesis 46:21, Benjamin had ten sons: Bela, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, and Ard. The name of his wife/wives are not given. Classical rabbinical tradition adds that each son's name honors Joseph.

I have even found some profound information on this man and his parents. ***His mother and father were both blood descendants of Joseph of Arimathea!***

Mary's uncle, her fathers brother. He was the man who took Jesus from the cross and placed the body in his tomb wrapping the body with the cloth he had purchased.

That makes this man a relative of Jesus by his earthly mother Mary by both parents!

This also may explain the Churches interest in keeping this shroud as a icon.

This is one good story if only I can get it made in to a book and published. Screenplays and documentaries and such would be a logical media extension. Anyone who successfully assists me in this endeavor will most certainly be richly rewarded too.

It was all very intricate and confusing at first to understand this, but after 5 years of research I understand it completely. Trying to explain it all will not be easy. It contains history, mystery, science and biology. All that can be simply, logically explained.

But I have come to this conclusion. I need to tell his story. I want the world to know of this man. To solve once and for all this centuries old mystery.

So those who are, "blinded by belief", will know the truth about the image seen on the shroud in Turin.



**He was a very
respected early
member of
the royal
House of Savoy.**

**He was also
interestingly
a descendant of the
immediate family of the
Virgin Mary.**

***Without a doubt this
revered cloth is what it is..***

**The simple burial
shroud of a great
long forgotten
crusader knight.
Who was buried in the
spring time in the
Levant with this sword.**

His sword.

